

**WALDO COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT SESSION
SEPTEMBER 23, 2009**

PRESENT: Commissioners Donald P. Berry, Sr. (Chairman), Amy R. Fowler and William D. Shorey. Also present was Deputy County Clerk Veronica Stover.

Commissioner Berry opened the court session at 10:05 a.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded entering Executive Session according to Title 36 § 841 (2) at 10:05 a.m. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded coming out of Executive Session at 10:15 a.m. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to send a letter to the Town of Swanville denying the request of reopening a poverty abatement case. Unanimous.**

Discussion with District Attorney Assistant Eric Walker:

E. Walker informed the Commissioners that the part-time Victim/Witness Advocate will be out starting on October 7, 2009 for an unknown period of time. She was hoping to work from home but that will not be able to happen as it has to do with issues of security and the system in Augusta. They won't know until the surgery is over; it could be as little as two weeks or as much as twelve weeks. She does all of the child abuse cases. E. Walker explained that the worry is that they cannot have her work shifted onto the other Victim/Witness Advocate, as she could not handle that extra load because it would be an extra twenty (20) hours per week. He felt it would be better to have someone come in to fill this need. M. Wadsworth mentioned that with the employee not working, there will be some extra cushion in the budget. Commissioner Fowler said that it sounded like a position that absolutely needs to be filled. E. Walker said that they needed someone that can communicate with the different agencies. Commissioner Berry requested that everyone look for someone that could fill that position.

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to give permission for Commissioner Berry to solve the temporary vacancy issue at the District Attorney's office. Unanimous.**

2010 BUDGET REVIEW (CONT'D):

RESERVE DISCUSSION

Commissioner Berry said that one of the things he would like to know in this budget is how much of the percentage increase is due to contractual increase. Commissioner Fowler said that they had no control over that. Commissioner Shorey had thought about that when the Facilities Manager had met with them the other day, as he was talking about the gentlemen coming from the courthouses and that he has money for this ramp. W. Shorey was thinking that could be cut from his budget, which would be \$34,500.00. Another thing that could be let go and put in another year is the \$50,000.00 that the Commissioners had put in the Grant Reserve for the possible new Sheriff's Building. W. Shorey felt that should come out of the budget request. Commissioner Berry stated that when he looked at where cuts could be made, he had looked at Reserves and had dropped it to \$90,000.00. In doing that, the

increase in the Reserve budget went from 92% down to 24%. A. Fowler asked if they could leave \$61,000.00 in Grant Matching under Reserves. All were in agreement.

Commissioner Shorey brought up that he was looking at Technology and, in particular, the \$30,000.00 that the State is mandating. He noted that the risky thing was that technology consultant Jim Arseneau has applied for a grant and if the State has mandated that, it would seem that they would be fairly aggressive about coming up with a grant. Commissioner Fowler agreed with him and she mentioned that the State had mandated that they had to have the metal detector when going into the courthouse but fund manning it, which she described as "typical." Commissioner Shorey wasn't sure if it was something they could do, but if they got a grant, then that would free up \$30,000.00. Commissioner Berry stated that regarding the Reserve Account, they went from \$139,500.00 down to \$89,500.00.

TECHNOLOGY DISCUSSION (1020)

K. Trussell printed out the current appropriations report. Commissioner Shorey suggested taking money from the technology reserve to support some of the technology expenses. Commissioners Fowler and Berry said that they did not have a problem with that. Commissioner Berry said that they were sitting on \$155,000.00. Commissioner Shorey thought that in the Technology Reserve there was a request for a grant and if they took money out of that, then if they got the grant then they could replenish the money immediately. All were in agreement to take \$30,000.00 out of the Commissioners Budget under Technology 7100. K. Trussell told the Commissioners that in that line right now there is \$110,292.00 and that would drop to \$80,292.00. \$226,882.00 is the grand total for the Technology Budget.

Commissioner Fowler thought of removing the Watch Guard Digital Video and Installment out of the Sheriff's Budget (1075) due to the possibility of a grant, and taking the amount out of the Technology Reserve.

ADVERTISING AND PROMOTION BUDGET DISCUSSION – (1080)

Commissioners Berry and Fowler both recommended not funding Eastern ME Development Corporation.

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to cut \$5,000.00 from the request for Eastern ME Development Corporation.** Discussion: Commissioner Shorey was filled in on the background of the Commissioners' recommendation not to fund this request due to their inability to obtain any grant funds for the County in previous years. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Commissioner Shorey suggested reducing the request for Time and Tide RC&D by \$2,000.00. All of the Commissioners were in favor of doing that.

E.M.A. BUDGET DISCUSSION– (1010)

Commissioner Berry asked what the \$3,700.00 was for under line 7011 Capital Outlay. Commissioner Fowler reminded the other Commissioners that it was for the new table and chairs for the new EMA building. Commissioner Shorey said that the new building won't be complete in 2010, it will be sometime in 2011. He thought that this request could be downsized or cut. Commissioner Berry asked why they had to budget for furniture for that building it right now. Commissioner Fowler called EMA Director Dale Rowley on the telephone. After consulting with him, Commissioner Fowler informed the Commissioners that D. Rowley is fine with this reduction. During discussion of the figures, V. Stover asked Commissioner Berry if the \$34,500.00 was removed from the Facilities Budget, whether or not that included the paving at the Communications Center parking lot.

Commissioners Berry and Shorey felt that was not needed due to building the new EMA building and it could wait until that was completed. Then do both driveways at once. Commissioner Shorey asked where they were as to how much money had now been cut from the budget today. K. Trussell said they were at \$144,600.00 and down to a 2.04% increase on the County side of the Budget and the grand total is only a 1.48% increase.

Commissioner Fowler asked Facilities Manager Keith Nealley about the electricity going up on just two lines - 4303 and 4308. He explained that he based his numbers on historical data and that they needed to be adjusted slightly. Commissioner Fowler also asked about line 4632 - Cleaning at the Communications Center. K. Nealley explained that the cleaning company is billing more now that there are no inmates to do cleaning.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY BUDGET DISCUSSION – (1015)

K. Trussell asked what the Commissioners were going to do about the request for reclassification of the Clerical Aide position. Leaving it in the current classification, the total would be \$30,184.00. Commissioner Berry instructed Karen to plug that figure in the District Attorney's budget. There was discussion on taking money out of the part-time line. The Commissioners agreed to reduce the part-time line by \$1,500.00, bringing it to \$11,500.00.

COMMISSIONERS BUDGET DISCUSSION – (1020)

Commissioner Shorey had suggested taking funding the part-time line (3100) at about half the request, bringing that down to \$6,000.00. The other two Commissioners agreed.

INTEREST BUDGET DISCUSSION – (2000)

K. Trussell stated that she was not sure what interest would be next year and that Treasurer David Parkman had expressed his hope to borrow less on the Tax Anticipation Note. Commissioner Shorey suggesting dropping the Interest request to \$20,000.00. K. Trussell said that if the Interest was reduced, then it will bring the total budget down to 1.98%. All Commissioners were in agreement and thought it was plenty in that account.

GRANT WRITING BUDGET DISCUSSION – (2050)

All of the Commissioners were in agreement to cut the budget in half. Line 4105 Travel/Mileage would be reduced from \$2,000.00 to \$500.00, line 4101 Grant Writing would be reduced from \$5,000.00 to \$3,000.00 and line 4100 Research would be reduced from \$3,000.00 to \$1,500.00, bringing the total request to \$5,000.00.

APPROVAL OF BUDGETS

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the EMA Budget (1010) at \$97,939.00. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the District Attorney Budget (1015) at \$171,441.00. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve the County Commissioners Budget (1020) at \$505,502.00. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve the Treasurer Budget (1025) at \$58,098.00. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the Facilities Management Budget (1030) at \$245,673.00. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve the Registry of Deeds Budget (1065) as presented at \$226,262.00. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the Probate Court Budget (1070) at \$189,530.00. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the Sheriff's Budget (1075) at \$1,212,773.00. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve the Communications Center Budget (1076) as presented at \$761,204.00. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve the Advertising and Promotion Budget (1080) at \$5,474.00. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the Audit Budget (1090) as presented at \$8,000.00. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the Debt Service Budget (1095) as presented at \$63,600.00. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the Interest Budget (2000) at \$20,000.00. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve the Waldo County Extension Budget (2005) as presented at \$42,702.00. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the Employee Benefits Budget (2025) at \$909,348.00. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve the Waldo County Soil & Water Budget (2035) as presented at \$20,475.00. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to approve the Records Preservation Budget (2040) as presented at \$2,330.00. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the Reserves Budget (2045) at \$87,500.00. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to approve the Grant Writing Budget (2050) at \$5,000.00. Unanimous.**

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded presenting the 2010 County Budget (without the Jail Budget included) at \$4,632,851.00 for an increase of 1.87%. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded presenting, with the Jail cap in place, the grand total of the 2010 County Budget at \$7,465,204.00 for an increase of 1.15% over the prior year budget. Unanimous.**

Commissioner Berry commended the other two Commissioners for all of their hard work on the budgets and also everyone who put in a lot of the hours into doing the budget. He also thanked Veronica Stover and James Arseneau for working on the format of the budget.

REVENUES

K. Trussell read the following revenue accounts for the Commissioner's approval:

REV #	REVENUE NAME	DEPARTMENTAL	COMMISSIONERS
		PROJECTED 2010	PROJECTED 2010
R0110	SOM RENT	\$ 82,167.72	\$ 82,167.72
R0200	EMA REIMBURSEMENT	\$ 74,170.00	\$ 74,170.00
R0400	REGISTER OF DEEDS - FEES	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 200,000.00
R0410	DEEDS - TRANSFER TAX	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 35,000.00
R0420	DEEDS - INTEREST	\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
R0500	PROBATE COURT	\$ 79,500.00	\$ 65,000.00
R0510	PROBATE RESTITUTION	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
R0600	SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
R0700	GENERAL FUND INTEREST	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00
R0800	MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
R0900	COURT ORDERED FEES	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
R1000	REFUND	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
		\$ 528,937.72	\$ 509,437.72

The Commissioners asked Register of Probate Sharon Peavey to meet with them briefly to discuss Probate Court Revenue. After speaking with them she decided to bring it down to \$65,000.00.

****A. Fowler moved, W. Shorey seconded to accept the Revenues at \$509,437.72. Unanimous.**

****W. Shorey moved, A. Fowler seconded to adjourn the meeting at 12:53 P.M. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted by Veronica Stover
Veronica Stover, Deputy County Clerk